

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-11

OMB-01 TRSE-00 CU-04 MBFR-03 ACDA-19 SAJ-01 RSR-01

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R 311115Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 59

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 7597

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EC IT

SUBJECT: US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS: ITALIAN VIEWS ON JULY 23
COPENHAGEN MEETING OF EC MINISTERS

REF: ROME 7386

1. IN FOLLOWUP TO DCM'S TALK WITH DUCCI ON JULY 23 POLITICAL
CONSULTATION OF THE NINE, FONOFF EC POLITICAL OFFICE DIRECTOR
(LA ROCCA) TOLD EMBOFF THAT FOREIGN MINISTER MORO HAD TAKEN
THE LEAD IN REPLYING TO JOBERT'S PROPOSAL TO POSTPONE COMM-
UNITY ACTION ON KISSINGER'S YEAR OF EUROPE SPEECH UNTIL 1974.
ACCORDING ITALIAN RECORD OF JULY MEETING FROM WHICH LA ROCCA
READ EXCERPTS, JOBERT PROPOSED HOLDING OFF REPLY ON US-EC
RELATIONS UNTIL END OF 1974 ON GROUNDS THAT BY THAT TIME,
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(A) EUROPEAN IDENTITY WOULD BE BETTER DEFINED AND (B) US-

SOVIET RELATIONSHIP WOULD BECOME CLEARER.

2. MORO IMMEDIATELY REPLIED TO JOBERT SAYING THAT HIS PROPOSAL WAS IMPOSSIBLE AND POINTING OUT THAT THERE ARE A NUMBER OF URGENT QUESTIONS IN THE FIELD OF US-EUROPEAN RELATIONS NOT THE LEAST OF WHICH ARE THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, THE KISSINGER SPEECH, U.S. CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES, CSCE, AND NATO DEFENSE QUESTIONS WHICH NEED TO BE ADDRESSED IN SOME FORM IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE. WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO CSCE, MORO ARGUED THAT AN AGREED-UPON US-EUROPEAN DOCUMENT RESULTING FROM THE NIXON VISIT WOULD MEASURABLY STRENGTHEN THE WEST'S HAND IN THE SECOND PHASE OF CSCE. LA ROCCA SAID THAT MORO RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM DOUGLAS-HOME AND OTHERS WITH THE RESULT THAT THE PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER THE MEETING SPOKE OF BOTH SHORT AND LONG TERM CONSIDERATIONS.

3. LA ROCCA NOTED THAT MORO, AT EC FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING, HAD PUSHED FOR THREE-PRONGED APPROACH TO VISIT OF PRESIDENT IN THE FALL: (A) DEFINITION AND AGREEMENT ON THEMES TO BE DISCUSSED DURING VISIT; (B) PLACE AND METHOD OF CONDUCTING MEETINGS WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS AND (C) POSSIBLE POINTS TO BE CONTAINED IN US-EC DECLARATION. ON SECOND POINT, LA ROCCA SAID ITALIANS FAVOR BRITISH PROPOSAL FOR MEETING OF PRESIDENT NIXON WITH PRESIDENTS OF EC COUNCIL AND COMMISSION WITH OTHER FOREIGN MINISTERS PRESENT. ADVANTAGE OF THIS FORMULA IS THE FLEXIBILITY IT AFFORDS IN PERMITTING DISCUSSION OF BOTH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS' ATTENDANCE TIED NEITHER TO EC PER SE OR TO POLITICAL CONSULTATION MECHANISM.

4. LA ROCCA SAID THAT INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN PREPARED TO ITALIAN AMBASSADORS IN EC CAPITALS TO CONTINUE DISCUSSION ALONG LINES MENTIONED ABOVE. INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE SENT WHEN CLEARED BY MORO.

5. ON QUESTION OF US-EC DOCUMENT, LA ROCCA STRESSED THAT ITALIANS HOPED THAT DECLARATION RESPONSIVE TO KISSINGER APRIL 23 SPEECH, RATHER THAN MERE COMMUNIQUE, WOULD EVENTUALLY BE AGREED UPON BY THE NINE. HOWEVER, THEY REALIZE THAT FRENCH OPPOSITION MAY MAKE THIS LITTLE MORE THAN A FORLORN WISH. LA ROCCA ALSO NOTED THAT NATO IS DEVELOPING ITS OWN SEPARATE RESPONSE TO THE KISSINGER SPEECH. VOLPE
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